OUNDLE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

1903.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

B. ROWORTH TURNER, B.A., M.B., B.C. Cantab.

OUNDLE AND THRAPSTON:

ALFRED KING AND SON, PRINTERS AND STATIONERS.

OUNDLE,

MARCH, 1904.

To the Oundle Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Annual Report, I have pleasure in again testifying to the satisfactory state of the public health of your district.

Births and Deaths. There is an increase in the birth-rate, unfortunately marred by a large infantile death-rate, and also an increase in the death-rate from last year.

The births number 44, the total deaths 50; as, however, eleven of these latter were deaths of non-residents in the locality, the total deaths of the district number 39, giving a death-rate of 16·2 per 1000, higher than our decennial average. The birth-rate is 18·3 per 1000. Of the deaths 8 were those of children under one year of age, the largest infantile mortality since 1892, three deaths being due to premature birth, and a fourth to the effects of premature birth. There was one death from diphtheria, 3 from phthisis, free from other tuberculous causes, 2 from cancer, 2 suicides, and one death from accident.

There were 15 deaths among persons aged 68 years and upwards, 3 of these being upwards of 80 years of age.

Zymotic Diseases. Excepting a small and mild epidemic of Scarlatina, we have been very free from zymotic diseases. Measles, which for the past two years was very prevalent, was only present in very few cases.

Enteric Fever was, as in 1902, absent, a good testimonial to our excellent drainage, water, and milk supply.

There was one case of Erysipelas and two of Diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever. On April 6th a sporadic case of the disease occurred at the Workhouse, in a child attending the National School. On May 11th another case occurred in a child at the same school, followed at short intervals by 9 other cases, one of which was a scholar at the British School. The disease died out in August, but a fresh, and in my opinion, sporadic case occurred in November, the boy being a scholar at the British School.

The children were all isolated, at considerable inconvenience to the fathers, who took lodgings in the town, and no untoward event occurred.

Diphtheria. In October a mild case of this disease occurred in the Stoke Road, no cause for it being found. On December 30th a fatal case occurred in Havelock Cottages, the origin of this case also not being discovered, but the drains in this block of cottages are rendered offensive by the occupants throwing vegetable and other decomposing matter into them and blocking them ; this fact may have helped to cause this attack.

Small-pox. We fortunately escaped an epidemic of this disease. As I mentioned in my report of last year, our danger of an epidemic lies in the tramps sleeping at the Union. I saw several men during the year at the Union who had marks of recent small-pox on them, and it is purely a matter of good luck that we have escaped having one of these men with the disease breaking out on him in our Union. It has been suggested to me that should

an outbreak of small-pox occur amongst tramps in any Union, all tramps should be compulsorily detained in the different Unions in the Kingdom in which they happened to be sleeping at the time for a period of one to three months. This is very drastic, and I am afraid of too impractical a character to be carried out. We have a Hospital Tent, which has been erected at Wakerley Cottage, and put up when cases of small-pox appeared in the county. In April a contact from one of the Kettering cases slept at a lodging-house in the town. We received information from the police, visited the premises, which were in good order, and gave directions for all bedding, &c., used by the contact to be burnt. The house was closed for two nights and thoroughly disinfected.

Overcrowding. There have been no cases reported.

Drainage. The sewerage and drainage of the town have been very satisfactory and several fresh connections have been made with the main sewer.

Water Supply. The supply is excellent in quantity and quality, the latter is rather hard, and schemes are under consideration for softening it; so far we have not arrived at a satisfactory solution, the expense being very great.

Slaughter Houses. Bake Houses. These have been regularly inspected and found in good condition.

Factory Acts. The Workshops have been visited and found satisfactory as to lighting, air space, ventilation, and sanitary appliances. A Register of Workshops is appended.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

B. ROWORTH TURNER, B.A., M.B., B.C., Cantab.

Register of Workshops in District

Gann, Miss, North Street	Dressmaker.
Stafford, Miss, Market Place	,,
Davidson, Mr. F. G., Market Place	,,
Wood, Mrs., North Street	,,
Thurlby, Miss, New Street	,,
Green, Mr. W., Market Place	Baking.
Seawell, Mr. G., Market Place	,,
Gann, Mr. R., New Street	Cabinet Maker
Howitt, Mrs. E. A., New Street	Saddler.
Loveday, Mr. A., West Street	,,
King, Mr., New Street	Printing.
Coulson, Mr., New Street	Tailor.
Curtis, Mr. C. H., North Street	Plumber.
Binder and Son. West Street	Wheelwright.
Turner, Mr. C. J., West Street	Basket Maker.

TABLE I.

Oundle Urban District.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1903 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 Yr. of Age		At all Ages.						
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1893	2,680	54	20·1	7	129·6	57	22	18	5		52	19·4
1894	2,680	64	23·8	3	46·8	43	16	11			43	16·
1895	2,680	58	21·4	5	86·6	47	17·5	12			47	17·5
1896	2,680	58	21 4	7	120	41	15·2	9	2		39	14·5
1897	2,680	38	14·2	5	131·6	35	13·1	7	1		34	12·6
1898	2,680	40	14·9	1	25	35	13·1	12	5		30	11·1
1899	2,680	36	13·4	4	111·1	32	11·9	13	5		27	10
1900	2,680	30	11·1	3	100	40	14·9	13	2		38	14·1
1901	2,404	45	18·7	4	88·8	41	17	13	11		30	12·4
1902	2,404	29	12·	2	69·	40	16·6	14	12		28	11·6
Averages for years 1893—1902	2·624	45	17·1	4	90·8	41	15·7	12	5		36	13·9
1903	2,404	44	18·3	8	181·8	50	20·7	13	11		39	16·2

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

‡ Oundle Union Workhouse.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 3,144.

Total population at all ages 2,404
Number of inhabited houses 513
Average number of persons per house 4·68
} At Census of 1901.

TABLE II.

Oundle Urban District.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1903 and previous years.

Names of Localities.												
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1893												
1894												
1895												
1896												
1897												
1898												
1899												
1900												
1901												
1902												
Averages of Years 1893 to 1902.												
1903												

TABLE III.

Oundle Urban District.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1903.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox							
Cholera							
Diphtheria	2		1	1			
Membranous croup							
Erysipelas	1					1	
Scarlet fever	12			12			
Typhus fever							
Enteric fever...							
Relapsing fever							
Continued fever							
Puerperal fever							
Plague							
Totals	15		1	13		1	

TABLE IV.

Oundle Urban District.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during year 1903.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to Whole District at subjoined ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all ages).		Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.			
Small-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet fever										
Whooping-cough										
Diphtheria and membranous croup	1		1							
Croup										
Fever — Typhus										
Fever — Enteric										
Fever — Other continued ...										
Epidemic influenza										
Cholera										
Plague										
Diarrhœa	1	1								
Enteritis										
Puerperal fever										
Erysipelas										
Other septic diseases										
Phthisis	3				1	2				
Other tubercular diseases ...	3	1	1			1				
Cancer, malignant disease ...	2					1	1			1
Bronchitis	1		1							1
Pneumonia	2	1					1			
Pleurisy										
Other diseases of respiratory organs										
Alcoholism / Cirrhosis of liver	1						1			
Venereal diseases										
Premature birth...	3	3								
Diseases and accidents of parturition										
Heart diseases	2						2			
Accidents	1			1						
Suicides	2				1	1				
Bright's disease	2				1	1				
Meningitis	1		1							
Peritonitis	2				1	1				
Disease of liver...	1						1			
Tetanus	1	1								
All other causes...	10	1					9			11
All causes	39	8	4	1	4	7	15			13